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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2 FOR THE WESTERN DIVISION OF TEXAS
 3 AUSTIN DIVISION
 4
 5 RICHARD MEYER,)
 6 Plaintiff,) Case No. 1:18-CV-00800-LY
 7 v.)
 8 MARK WAID,)
 9 Defendant.)

10
 11
 12
 13 VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION of MARK WAID taken
 14 on behalf of the Plaintiff at 10250
 15 Constellation Boulevard, 19th Floor, Los
 16 Angeles, California, on Tuesday, February 26,
 17 2019 at 1:26 p.m. before Vivian C. Lane,
 18 Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 11339.

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 2
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 Also Present:
 John Hank, Videographer
 Richard Meyer

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 5 BY MR. BYRNE 6
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 7 EXHIBITS
 8 PLAINTIFF'S PAGE
 9 1 Copy of Personal Appearance Agreement 51
 10 Bates stamped DEF00025 through DEF00027;
 3 pages
 11 2 Transcript of part of Mr. Waid's 52
 12 conversations with audience during
 Comicalooza in Houston in May of 2018;
 4 pages
 13 3 Flash drive containing audio recording 54
 14 of Mark Waid's conversations with
 audience at Comicalooza in Houston in
 May of 2018
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 16 4 Printout of pages from Facebook; 2 pages 69
 17 5 Printout from Antarctic Press Web page; 70
 5 pages
 18 6 Facebook post Mr. Waid posted on 72
 19 afternoon of May 11th, 2018 while
 waiting for Mr. Dunn to return the
 message he left; 2 pages
 20
 21 7 Series of text messages exchanged 72
 22 between you and Mr. Dunn beginning on
 Friday May ,11th at 5:51 p.m. and
 continuing several days thereafter;
 9 pages
 23
 24
 25

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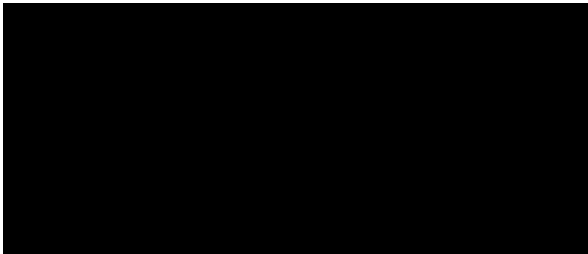
7 QUESTIONS INSTRUCTED NOT TO ANSWER
 8 (None)

15 INFORMATION REQUESTED
 16 (None)

25

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<p>1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019</p> <p>2 1:26 P.M.</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're on the record to begin the</p> <p>01 : 25 5 video-recorded deposition of Mark Waid in the matter of</p> <p>6 Richard Meyer vs. Mark Waid. Today is February 26th,</p> <p>7 2019. The time is approximately 1:26 p.m. The case is</p> <p>8 filed in United States District Court for the Western</p> <p>9 District of Texas, Austin Division, Case</p> <p>01 : 26 10 No. 1:18-CV-00800-LY. This deposition was requested by</p> <p>11 counsel for the plaintiff, Richard Meyer. We are in the</p> <p>12 offices of Glaser Weil located at 10250 Constellation</p> <p>13 Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, 90067.</p> <p>14 The court reporter is Vivian Lane with the</p> <p>01 : 26 15 offices of Barkley Court Reporters. My name is John</p> <p>16 Hank. I'm a representative of Lexitas located at 13101</p> <p>17 Northwest Freeway, Suite 210, Houston, Texas 77040.</p> <p>18 If all counsel present could identify</p> <p>19 themselves, who they represent, and the location of their</p> <p>01 : 26 20 offices.</p> <p>21 MR. BYRNE: Dan Byrne with the firm in Austin,</p> <p>22 Texas, and I'm here representing Richard Meyer.</p> <p>23 MR. PIERCE: Ryan Pierce here for the defendant,</p> <p>24 Mr. Waid, from Austin, Texas. And sitting next to me is</p> <p>01 : 27 25 Mark Zaid from Washington, D.C.</p>	<p>01 : 27 1 Q What kind of a case?</p> <p>2 A I'm sorry?</p> <p>3 Q What kind of a case?</p> <p>4 A It was a copyright case.</p> <p>01 : 27 5 Q All right. You understand the oath you just</p> <p>6 took is the same one you'd take in front of a judge and a</p> <p>7 jury?</p> <p>8 A I do.</p> <p>9 Q And as we just did in the announcements, you</p> <p>01 : 28 10 know I'm here representing Richard Meyer in the lawsuit</p> <p>11 that's pending between the two of you?</p> <p>12 A Yes, sir.</p> <p>13 Q Okay. I'm going to try to be as efficient as</p> <p>14 possible today. Tell me a little bit about</p> <p>01 : 28 15 your -- your -- your background. I -- I think I've read</p> <p>16 somewhere that you were born in -- in Alabama?</p> <p>17 A That's correct. I was born in Alabama. Moved</p> <p>18 around the South as a child. Lived in Virginia, lived in</p> <p>19 Buffalo and in California and in Florida. I've been out</p> <p>01 : 28 20 here off and on for about 16 years.</p> <p>21 Q Okay. Did you go to college somewhere?</p> <p>22 A Virginia Commonwealth University.</p> <p>23 Q Okay. And when did you graduate, if you</p> <p>24 graduated?</p> <p>01 : 28 25 A I did not graduate.</p>
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<p>1 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Would the court reporter please</p> <p>2 swear in the witness.</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 (The oath was administered to the</p> <p>5 deponent, MARK WAID, as follows:)</p> <p>6</p> <p>7 THE REPORTER: Will you raise your right hand,</p> <p>8 please.</p> <p>9 Do you solemnly state under penalty of perjury</p> <p>10 that the testimony you give in this deposition shall be</p> <p>11 the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?</p> <p>12 THE WITNESS: I do.</p> <p>13 MR. BYRNE: And let the record also reflect that</p> <p>14 Richard Meyer, one of the parties is -- is also present.</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 EXAMINATION</p> <p>17 BY MR. BYRNE:</p> <p>18 Q Would you state your name for the record,</p> <p>19 please.</p> <p>01 : 27 20 A Sure. William Mark Waid.</p> <p>21 Q And Mr. Waid, have you ever been deposed</p> <p>22 before?</p> <p>23 A Yes. I was an expert witness once.</p> <p>24 Q Okay. Any other times?</p> <p>01 : 27 25 A No.</p>	<p>01 : 28 1 Q And I think I also read somewhere that there</p> <p>2 was a period of time when you actually lived in Texas?</p> <p>3 A That's correct.</p> <p>4 Q When was that?</p> <p>01 : 29 5 A That would have been from '82 to approximately</p> <p>6 '84, '85.</p> <p>7 Q Okay. And what -- what brought you to Texas in</p> <p>8 the -- in the early '80s?</p> <p>9 A My mother was ill.</p> <p>01 : 29 10 Q And I guess she had relocated there?</p> <p>11 A Right. Exactly, yes.</p> <p>12 Q And were you working during that time?</p> <p>13 A Uh, yes.</p> <p>14 Q And what kind of work were you doing --</p> <p>01 : 29 15 A Assistant to an accountant.</p> <p>16 Q And when did you get into the business</p> <p>17 of -- of -- I'm not sure how to -- the comic book</p> <p>18 industry --</p> <p>19 A Oh, sure.</p> <p>01 : 29 20 Q -- and in what way?</p> <p>21 A I began on staff in 1987 as an assistant</p> <p>22 editor -- associate editor of DC Comics.</p> <p>23 Q And what city was that in?</p> <p>24 A That was in New York.</p> <p>01 : 30 25 Q All right. And how long did you live in New</p>

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02:12	1 substance and content of the -- the actual Jawbreaker 2 comic that is offensive? 3 A To Kickstarter, yes. 4 Q I'm sorry, to -- to Kickstarter?	02:14	1 reaching out making contact -- or trying to make contact. 2 Q Okay. Is it possible you could have Googled it 3 and found it on the Internet?
02:12	5 A Yes, sir. 6 Q I'm not asking about Kickstarter right now. 7 I'm asking about you. 8 A That wasn't clear. You were just asking 9 about --	02:14	5 THE WITNESS: Not to my recollection. 6 BY MR. BYRNE: 7 Q I didn't ask whether -- obviously you don't 8 recall going to the Internet. 9 A I don't.
02:12	10 Q Okay. 11 A Okay. Well, based on -- if you're asking to 12 this day, based on my knowledge that Kickstarter rejected 13 this project on the basis of victory and misogyny, then 14 the answer would be yes.	02:15	10 Q Would -- would that not be a normal action that 11 you would typically take in this situation where you're 12 trying to get a number of a business?
02:12	15 Q So you're saying that you assume, even though 16 you don't know, that there's something about the content 17 of the comic that was produced that must be offensive, 18 otherwise Kickstarter wouldn't have done what it did?	02:15	13 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 14 THE WITNESS: Again, that wasn't -- that wasn't the 15 direction I went.
02:13	19 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 20 THE WITNESS: I know for a fact Kickstarter rejected 21 the project on those grounds. We have documentation of 22 that fact. 23 BY MR. BYRNE: 24 Q Because of the content of the work, not because 25 of the -- those issues being affiliated with Mr. Meyer?	02:15	16 BY MR. BYRNE: 17 Q I'm not asking what you did in this case. I'm 18 asking what you would normally if you want to try to 19 reach a business somewhere around the country, isn't it a 20 normal action for you to type the name of the business in 21 on Google to see if you can find what you need on the 22 Internet?
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02:13	1 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 2 THE WITNESS: That's correct. 3 BY MR. BYRNE: 4 Q So did you -- at some point you decided to call 5 Antarctic Press? 6 A Correct. 7 Q Did you go online and Google Antarctic Press to 8 get the number? Or did you already have it -- 9 A Not to the best of my recollection.	02:15	1 with Amazon.com, yes. But we're not talking about that. 2 BY MR. BYRNE: 3 Q And why do you not use that same tool when 4 you're within the industry?
02:13	10 Q I'm sorry? 11 A Not to the best of my recollection. 12 Q Did you already have contact information in 13 your contacts? 14 A No, sir.	02:15	5 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 6 THE WITNESS: It was simply just the direction I 7 went. 8 BY MR. BYRNE: 9 Q I understand that's what happened here.
02:14	15 Q How did you go about getting contact 16 information for Antarctic Press? 17 A To the best of my recollection, I contacted 18 industry colleagues, seeing if anybody had contact 19 information for them.	02:16	10 A Right. 11 Q But I'm asking why you would differentiate 12 between how you would reach a business that you didn't 13 have a number for that's in your industry versus one 14 that's outside your industry.
02:14	20 Q Do you remember who you contacted? 21 A I remember I contacted [REDACTED]. I don't 22 recall anyone else I may have gotten the information 23 from. I don't necessarily -- I don't recall whether or 24 not [REDACTED] even picked up the phone or whether or not 25 I got the number from [REDACTED]. I do -- I just remember me	02:16	15 MR. PIERCE: Object to form, asked and answered. 16 THE WITNESS: Honestly, I don't call -- recall. 17 BY MR. BYRNE: 18 Q Who did you talk to first at Antarctic Press? 19 A I don't know the person's name.
		02:16	20 Q Whoever answered the phone? 21 A Whoever answered the phone. 22 Q And what do you recall about that conversation? 23 A I recall that I left a message. It was regarding 24 their announcement. I said specifically during that 25 conversation, "I wish to speak to the owner" -- not in

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02:17	1 anger. I said specifically, "I'm not calling to tell you 2 what to publish or not to publish, but I would simply 3 like to speak to Mr. Dunn and see if he understands, you 4 know, why the backlash is happening."	02:20	1 what -- what do you know. And then he explained he had 2 already had a morning and afternoon of angry freelancers 3 and of his own staff being angry and threatening to quit 4 over this situation.
02:17	5 Q So you left a -- a message specifically for Ben 6 Dunn? 7 A I did. 8 Q Okay. And was that on Friday? 9 A Yes, sir.	02:21	5 I said, "How did you not know?" 6 He said, "I'm not on social media. This is not 7 my full-time job." 8 I said, "I am not calling to tell you what to 9 publish or not to publish, that is not my intent, and
02:17	10 Q And how long did it take for that call -- that 11 message to be returned approximately? 12 A Approximately two hours. 13 Q And who called you back? 14 A I believed it was Ben Dunn at the time. I	02:21	10 people can publish whatever they want to publish. I just 11 wanted to make sure you understood why there was such a 12 firestorm coming your way and why there was such an 13 outcry."
02:18	15 later learned it was his brother, Joe. 16 Q Had you ever met Joe? 17 A Not to my recollection. 18 Q What do you know about their different roles, 19 or what do you -- did you understand their different	02:21	14 He indicated that he now understood. He didn't 15 understand at the beginning of that day, but by that time 16 he had understood. He indicated to me that that point he 17 was ready to sever ties with Mr. Meyer. He used the 18 phrase "his behavior is indefensible."
02:18	20 roles were within Antarctic Press at the time of this 21 call? 22 A I had no idea. My understanding at the time 23 was that Ben Dunn was still the publisher/owner, and 24 that's why I went -- reached out to him.	02:22	19 Q Uh-huh. 20 A And from there, we started talking about 21 believing that, you know, we were on the same page at 22 that point. The conversation became more genial. Now, 23 good on you being able to stay in business this long and 24 the good and bad times.
02:18	25 Q And how long did you talk to Mr. Dunn on that	02:22	25 We talked about the role of a publisher,
Page 42		Page 44	
02:19	1 Friday? 2 A To the best of my recollection, approximately 3 15 minutes, perhaps a little longer. 4 Q Was that on your cell phone? 5 A Yes, sir. 6 Q Do you have records of that call? 7 A Not to the best of my recollection, no, sir. 8 Q Have you tried to get them? 9 A I have not tried to get them, no.	02:22	1 how -- you know, the role of divorcing the work from the 2 creative person. Sometimes you -- you know, you won't 3 publish something because you find the -- the author 4 repellent. Sometimes you will. Sometimes my -- it 5 became a conversation about where do you draw the line. 6 How offensive or how immoral does somebody have to be for 7 you, as a publisher, to say, all right, I can't divorce 8 the work from this person, I can't publish this. It was 9 a very congenial and very friendly conversation.
02:19		02:23	10 Q So he talked about the recognition in the 11 industry, that the work and the person should not be 12 viewed as one thing but should be viewed independently, 13 correct? 14 MR. PIERCE: Object to form.
02:20	17 Q Okay. So tell me what you recall about the 18 substance of the conversation with Mr. Dunn that lasted 19 approximately 15 minutes or maybe longer? 20 A Certainly. 21 Mr. Dunn called -- I was expecting -- I was 22 expecting a call, or at least hoping to expect a call, so 23 I picked up the phone. The first words out of Mr. Dunn's 24 mouth were a sigh and then "I know."	02:23	15 THE WITNESS: Not correct, no, sir. 16 We talked about to the extent at which that's 17 the case. He never indicated absolutely that you should 18 always separate the person from the product. That 19 was -- that was the whole point of the conversation. 20 BY MR. BYRNE: 21 Q So when you got the call on your -- do you have 22 an iPhone? 23 A I do. 24 Q When you got your -- the call on your iPhone, 25 did you notice that the origination of the number was
02:20	25 I laughed and we started talking about	02:23	

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02:23	1 San Antonio, Texas? 2 A I don't recall. 3 Q When did you figure out that Antarctic Press 4 and Mr. Dunn were based in San Antonio?	02:38	1 questions. 2 BY MR. BYRNE: 3 Q The Friday that we're talking about here where 4 this phone call took place --
02:24	5 A To the best of my recollection, it was in the 6 week or week-and-a-half following when the entire thing 7 became a giant industry brew-ha-ha. And there was much 8 discussion, there was much hatred flying my way on social 9 media. Much anger and somewhere in that maelstrom, I	02:38	5 A Yes. 6 Q -- is May 11th, 2018, correct? 7 A Correct. 8 Q And did you come away from your call with 9 Mr. Dunn on May 11th with the understanding that he
02:24	10 believe it was brought or it was just brought to my 11 attention that Mr. Meyer was in Texas -- which was news 12 to me. That Antarctic Press was in Texas, which was news 13 to me.	02:39	10 was -- his company was not going to proceed with 11 publishing Mr. Meyer's comic book? 12 A My understanding was that he had personally 13 made that decision.
02:24	14 Q And why would that have been a relevant data 15 point in the -- in the maelstrom that followed the phone 16 call?	02:39	14 Q And did you feel like as a result of that 15 decision that you had achieved your goal -- 16 MR. PIERCE: Objection; form.
02:25	17 A Well, with respect that you would -- I -- you'd 18 have to ask the people who put that information out 19 there. Um, to the best of my recollection, it became, 20 you know -- you know, well, you know, this is -- this is 21 bad behavior, and I honestly don't know.	02:39	17 BY MR. BYRNE: 18 Q -- for the call? 19 A My goal for the call was simply to alert him of 20 the -- of the hornet's nest he was stumbling into. So 21 any sense that that mission was accomplished, was 22 accomplished within the first 30 seconds of the call.
02:25	22 Q Mr. Waid, is it possible that you knew, based 23 on your prior extensive familiarity with the industry and 24 it being a fairly small industry, that Antarctic Press 25 was based in San Antonio before you made the call there?	02:39	23 Q Well, did you have any sense personally that 24 you had won? 25 MR. PIERCE: Object to form.
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02:25	1 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 2 THE WITNESS: Not that I recall. 3 BY MR. BYRNE: 4 Q But you also can't recall how it came up in the 5 context of the discussions in the week or two following 6 the call that Texas was where you had directed your 7 communications during that call? 8 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 9 THE WITNESS: Not to the best of my recollection, 10 no, sir.	02:40	1 THE WITNESS: There was no winning or losing, no, 2 sir. That was not the -- that was not the object. 3 BY MR. BYRNE: 4 Q Well, you would acknowledge that your hoped-for 5 outcome when you initiated the call was for him to 6 reconsider the decision to publish Mr. Meyer's book, 7 right? 8 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 9 THE WITNESS: Not necessarily, sir.
02:26	11 MR. PIERCE: Dan, when you get to a good point, 12 okay? We've been going about an hour. Can we take a 13 bathroom break? Just whenever you get to an okay 14 stopping point.	02:40	10 BY MR. BYRNE: 11 Q Would you say you were pleased with the 12 decision Mr. Dunn made at -- by the conclusion of your 13 call? 14 MR. PIERCE: Object to form.
02:26	15 MR. BYRNE: Sure. This is as good as any. 16 Off the record. 17 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off the record at 2:26. 18 (Recess taken.) 19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the record at 20 2:38.	02:40	15 THE WITNESS: I would say that's accurate. 16 BY MR. BYRNE: 17 Q What's the next substantive communication you 18 recall having in the days following your call on he 19 Antarctic Press announcement that related to Mr. Meyer?
02:38	21 THE WITNESS: If I may, before we start, there's a 22 couple of things I'd like to clarify. 23 MR. BYRNE: You can just do that when you get your 24 deposition transcript if you feel like you need to 25 correct something, or your lawyer can ask follow-up	02:41	20 A Not long after. I -- I can't remember exactly 21 how long. But that afternoon or early that evening I 22 received a text message from Mr. Dunn that initiated a 23 conversation that was quite pleasant. 24 Q A text conversation? 25 A Yes, sir.

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02:41	1 Q Okay. All right. And did that text	02:45	1 (Plain iff's Exhibit 1 was marked for
	2 conversation continue into the following week?		2 identification by he court reporter and was
	3 THE WITNESS: Gesundheit.		3 attached hereto.)
	4 I wouldn't say "continue." There were -- there		4 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
02:41	5 were other conversations. Yes, I believe there were	02:45	5 BY MR. BYRNE:
	6 three interactions via text in all.		6 Q I'm going to hand you what's been marked as
	7 BY MR. BYRNE:		7 Exhibit 1 to your deposition.
	8 Q And you were seeking assurance from Mr. Dunn		8 A Uh-huh.
	9 that he didn't feel bullied by you during your call,		9 Q Do you recognize this as the Personal
02:42	10 correct?	02:45	10 Appearance Agreement that you entered into in connection
	11 MR. PIERCE: Object to form.		11 with your appearance at the Houston event in May of 2018?
	12 THE WITNESS: That is correct.		12 A I do.
	13 BY MR. BYRNE:		13 Q And is there a signed version of this
	14 Q Did he ever give you that -- that assurance in		14 somewhere?
02:42	15 the days following the call?	02:46	15 A I assume there is.
	16 MR. PIERCE: Object to form.		16 Q Okay. Did you -- did you make any effort to
	17 THE WITNESS: He did not.		17 locate it?
	18 BY MR. BYRNE:		18 A No, sir.
	19 Q Do you recall the issue of Mr. Meyer and the		19 Q Is this a fairly standard form of agreement you
02:42	20 Antarctic Press "Jawbreaker" decision coming up during	02:46	20 get for appearing at these events?
	21 your appearance in Houston later in May?		21 A It's hard to say. This was a new arrangement
	22 A I do.		22 with a -- a representative who had organized these
	23 Q And what is it that prompted you to remember		23 things, and then he's paid and then I am paid through
	24 that conversation?		24 him.
02:43	25 A I was speaking at a panel, as one does at these	02:46	25 Q So you had a different promoter for this one
Page 50		Page 52	
02:43	1 things, in front of a group of fans who asked questions	02:46	1 than you usually use?
	2 about my career, about my involvement, about my life,		2 A I generally don't use promoters.
	3 about whatever. I'm an open book when it comes to that		3
	4 kind of stuff. And at some point, someone asked about		4
02:43	5 Meyer or about the foofaraw that had blown up around it.	02:46	5
	6 Q And had you forgotten about answering questions		6
	7 about Mr. Meyer in Houston in May of 2018 when you filled		7
	8 out your first affidavit in support of a motion to		8
	9 dismiss in this case?		9
02:43	10 A Yes. That's why we followed up with the	02:47	10
	11 correction once I remembered, yes.		11 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 2 was marked for
	12 Q Okay. I'll just tell you, for the record, that		12 identification by the court reporter and was
	13 that affidavit was executed on November 1st and -- and		13 attached hereto.)
	14 there was a follow-up one -- a day or so later. Several		14 THE REPORTER: Thank you.
02:44	15 days -- excuse me -- on November 12th.	02:47	15 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.
	16 A Uh-huh.		16 BY MR. BYRNE:
	17 Q So what happened between November 1st and		17 Q I'm going to hand you what's marked as
	18 November 12th of 2018 to refresh your recollection about		18 Exhibit 2 to your deposition and ask you if that appears
	19 the fact that you had indeed directed communications		19 to be a accurate transcript of part of your conversation
02:44	20 concerning Mr. Meyer to persons in the state of Texas?	02:47	20 with the audience during the Houston event in May of
	21 A I honestly don't recall.		21 2018.
	22 Q Did you go back and listen to the audio of your		22 MR. PIERCE: You're -- are you asking him to certify
	23 interview before you signed your supplemental affidavit?		23 that this is an accurate transcript of --
	24 A The supplemental one, yes, sir.		24 MR. BYRNE: Yeah, I'm asking if it looks right to
02:45	25 MR. PIERCE: Oh, you'll get that copy.	02:48	25 him.

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02:48	1	MR. PIERCE: Yeah.	02:51	1	just as there are in pop -- I mean, right
	2	MR. BYRNE: I'm not asking him to give a verbatim		2	there in -- in -- in the world right now, not
	3	blessing to it.		3	just in comic books but in the world, you
	4	MR. PIERCE: So just generally?		4	got... heavily, you know, male heavy... um,
02:48	5	MR. BYRNE: Just generally, yes.	02:51	5	movements of guys who where trying to move
	6	(Whereupon, the witness reviews the		6	things back, or towards white supremacy, back
	7	document.)		7	towards a world in which women knew their
	8	THE WITNESS: Okay. The question again was?		8	place, uh... that kind of nonsense, um, and
	9	BY MR. BYRNE:		9	they are the proud boys or they're, you know,
02:49	10	Q Does that appear to generally be an accurate	02:51	10	the -- they're this group or they're that
	11	transcription of your comments and -- and your		11	group.")
	12	interaction with an audience member at the Houston		12	MR. BYRNE: Let me just pause right there.
	13	May 2018 event?		13	BY MR. BYRNE:
	14	A Yes, sir.		14	Q Is that your voice that we're hearing on the
02:49	15	Q I'm -- I'm going -- let me just play the --	02:51	15	recording?
	16	A Sure.		16	A Yes, sir.
	17	Q -- the one that's marked.		17	Q Okay. And so far, does the transcription track
	18	THE WITNESS: Okay. Which?		18	a fair degree of accuracy what -- what you were saying
	19	MR. BYRNE: I'm going to play the audio file.		19	back at the time?
02:49	20	THE WITNESS: The one that's marked? I don't --	02:52	20	MR. PIERCE: Object to form.
	21	you're looking for the one that's marked?		21	THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
	22	MR. PIERCE: Has this been marked yet?		22	BY MR. BYRNE:
	23	THE REPORTER: I -- I'll sticker it later.		23	Q Is there anything about it that was inaccurate
	24	THE WITNESS: Oh, okay. I see what you're saying.		24	that you've heard?
02:50	25	MR. PIERCE: Okay.	02:52	25	A Not that I've caught.
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02:50	1	MR. BYRNE: So it will be marked as Exhibit 3?	02:52	1	Q Okay. And you, in making these comments, were
	2	THE REPORTER: Yes.		2	responding to an audience member's question about
	3	(Plaintiff's Exh bit 3 was marked for		3	Diversity & Comics and Mr. Meyer, correct?
	4	identification by the court reporter and was		4	A Let me read his question again.
02:50	5	attached hereto.)	02:52	5	(Whereupon, the witness reviews the
	6	MR. BYRNE: I'll ask you to listen to this		6	document.)
	7	recording.		7	THE WITNESS: The answer to the question would be a
	8	THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.		8	little more general about these people, but yes.
	9	(The audio recording was played as		9	BY MR. BYRNE:
02:50	10	follows:	02:52	10	Q But there is a specific question about
	11	"You guys created the -- did their		11	Diversity Comics which you -- you identify with
	12	comic. Great. Awesome. Then they started		12	Mr. Meyer, correct?
	13	doing things like making a list of		13	A Buried in here there is a specific question.
	14	the -- there was a -- there was a bunch of		14	Q Okay.
02:50	15	stores that decided they weren't going to	02:52	15	(The audio recording was played as
	16	carry the comic" --)		16	follows:
	17	MR. BYRNE: I think I may be playing the wrong		17	"And comics has you know a group or two
	18	excerpt.		18	like that too, comics fans have a group like
	19	MR. PIERCE: Yeah. That was in the middle.		19	that or two too, and it's a shame, um, trying
02:50	20	(The audio recording was played as	02:52	20	to say without inflaming anything.
	21	follows:		21	"Recently um one of them one of hese
	22	"That's tough to answer me because I'm		22	groups kickstarted a comic and great, awesome,
	23	trying to... you don't want to give oxygen too		23	they're gonna do their own graphic novel
	24	much to toxic, toxic people. But what he's		24	because they're super conservative, hyper
02:51	25	basically talking about there is, there are --	02:53	25	conservative guys.")

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02:53	1 BY MR. BYRNE: 2 Q Were you referring to -- let me interrupt the 3 recording again. 4 Are you referring to Mr. Meyer as the group 02:53 5 that's going to do their own graphic novel? 6 A He and his collaborator, yes, sir. 7 Q Do you know whether he had any coauthors? 8 A I -- I know because of the way the craft works, 9 that he would have been working with an artist because 02:53 10 he's not a -- 11 Q And a colorist? 12 A And a colorist, yes. 13 Q Okay. So you're referring to that group, 14 Mr. Meyer, and his colorist and his artist, right? 02:53 15 A It's -- we're on the line. I -- one of these 16 groups -- I was talking -- again, that's -- I'm talking 17 specifically about those three people, just more in a 18 general sense of Comicsgate has started. Because again, 19 by that time, in most people's minds, including my own, 02:54 20 Meyers and Comicsgate were interchangeable. 21 Q In this statement, you're actually talking 22 about a graphic novel, correct? 23 A That is correct, yes, sir. 24 Q And that would be Mr. Meyers and his colorist 02:54 25 and his artist, graphic (inaudible) that you're referring	02:55 1 last of all their employees.") 2 BY MR. BYRNE: 3 Q And again, you're referring in this comment to 4 Mr. Meyer, correct? The list of employees that you 02:55 5 testified about earlier? 6 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 7 BY MR. BYRNE: 8 Q Or is that a reference to someone else? 9 A It's a -- it's a more general statement to 02:55 10 what -- it -- not necessarily to him, but to the people 11 who are working on this book. 12 Q Did -- did anyone besides Mr. Meyer, to your 13 knowledge, circulate a list of stores and phone numbers? 14 A Not that I recall, no. 02:55 15 Q Okay. 16 (The audio recording was played as 17 follows: 18 "And with the idea that, 'oh no, don't 19 call them and harass them, we're not telling 02:55 20 you to do that at all!' But here's their phone 21 numbers and their first and last names of all 22 their employees. Well, c'mon. 23 "So, there was a --") 24 BY MR. BYRNE: 02:55 25 Q And is your comment here -- let's pause	
Page 58		Page 60	
02:54 1 to, correct? 2 A That's correct. 3 (The audio recording was played as 4 follows: 02:54 5 "And the myth was, the wrap was that 6 comics was not interested in creating 7 conservative creators and we're not, we're 8 throwing conservative creators out. That's 9 not the case at all, it's a lot of 02:54 10 conservative creators at comics, we don't -- 11 we're throwing assholes out, that's [sic] what 12 we're doing and [sic] for every, for every 13 conservative asshole we don't work with in 14 comics, there's ten liberal assholes [sic] we 02:54 15 don't work with in comics, so if that's not, 16 there's no -- there's no political yardstick 17 here. 18 "Uh these guys created the, you 19 know, they did their comic, great, awesome. 02:54 20 Then they started doing things like 21 um...making a list of the stor -- there 22 was, there was a bunch of stores that decided 23 they weren't going to carry the comic, so 24 these guys made a list of those stores...and 02:55 25 their phone numbers and the names, first and	02:56 1 again -- intended to suggest that there was, in fact, a 2 implied direction to harass the stores and their 3 employees? 4 A Absolutely. 02:56 5 Q Okay. 6 Back to the tape. 7 (The audio recording was played as 8 follows: 9 "-- publisher here in Texas who was 02:56 10 going to publish their comic, for, after it 11 had been kickstarted they were gonna, I ke 12 publish it for comic stores and... there was a 13 huge amount of hatred towards that publisher 14 at this moment. There was a, most people in 02:56 15 comics, most fans in comics were looking at 16 this as 'How? What are you doing? These guys 17 are, these are indefensible human beings.' Uh 18 they are, they, they harass women, they harass 19 minorities, they harass LGBTQ people, um, 02:56 20 they're full of hate. What are you doing?") 21 BY MR. BYRNE: 22 Q And Mr. Meyer -- pause again -- 23 Mr. Meyer -- Mr. Waid? 24 A Uh-huh. 02:56 25 Q In this excerpt, you're referring to Antarctic		

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02:57	1 Press, correct?	02:58	1 BY MR. BYRNE:
	2 A Correct.	2	Q And what did -- what did you mean by your
	3 Q And you're using "they" but you're really	3	reference to the "Hordes of Hell"?
	4 referring to Mr. Meyer; are you not?	4	A Another hyperbolic reference to the fact that
02:57	5 MR. PIERCE: Object to form.	02:58	5 there was such a huge social media outcry against this
	6 THE WITNESS: "They" harass. When they harass --	6	from the industry.
	7 you mean, in that context, but they harass, they do this,	7	(The audio recording was played as
	8 yes.	8	follows:
	9 BY MR. BYRNE:	9	"Long story short, I did call the
02:57	10 Q Okay.	02:59	10 publisher and said 'look you do what you want
	11 (The audio recording was played as	11	and I'm not, I'm -- I'm not asking you to not
	12 follows:	12	publish it, I'm not even saying, I'm not
	13 "And my feeling is, look let the baby	13	saying anything, I'm just kinda curious what
	14 have his bottle, let, I don't care who	14	you're thinking.' And the answer was, 'Oh my
02:57	15 publishes the comic. I don't care whether you	02:59	15 God, we had no idea, like we really didn't vet
	16 published this comic or not. I don't care.	16	this before we decided to publish it.' And so
	17 But I knew the publisher and I don't think he	17	they made an announcement they weren't gonna
	18 was aware of why all of a sudden it was this	18	to publish it.
	19 gigantic groundswell of hate towards him. So	19	"Uhhh that's their choice, I wasn't...
02:57	20 I said before we burn this place to the	02:59	20 I, you know, I, I didn't, I wasn't
	21 ground --")	21	intimidating them. I wasn't pushing them into
	22 BY MR. BYRNE:	22	doing one thing or another, I just wanted to,
	23 Q I'm going to pause there.	23	to look out for him, make sure he understood
	24 Um, what did you mean here when you said	24	why people were angry at him. Um, and so
02:57	25 "before we burn this place to the ground," referring to	02:59	25 that's turned into what, me getting death
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02:57	1 your conversation with Mr. Dunn?	02:59	1 threats every, you know, 5, 6 hours for a
	2 MR. PIERCE: Object to form.	2	while ummm...
	3 THE WITNESS: It was a hyperbolic statement that	3	"Cause I'm clearly hate, you know,
	4 before the industry as a whole decides to condemn him,	4	clearly hate conservatives. Because I didn't,
02:58	5 let's find out what they really knew, give them the	02:59	5 I said, all right clearly I'm
	6 benefit of the doubt that they weren't aware.	6	bullying comic-I'm apparently I'm bullying
	7 BY MR. BYRNE:	7	publishers, I'm calling publishers and
	8 Q Were you conveying there that had he not	8	bullying them into not publi-if I could, if I
	9 changed his mind, you would have been one of the people	9	could bully publishers I'd be rich. If I
02:58	10 burning this place to the ground, metaphorically	02:59	10 could bully publishers I'd be writing Superman
	11 speaking?	11	tomorrow, I could-there'd be so many things I
	12 A No --	12	would be doing if I were really-if I had a
	13 MR. PIERCE: Object to form.	13	power to make publishers do what I wanted them
	14 THE WITNESS: No, sir.	14	to do.
02:58	15 BY MR. BYRNE:	03:00	15 "Um does that kinda answer your
	16 Q Okay.	16	question? It's...kinda?
	17 (The audio recording was played as	17	"It's uh,... people can you know feel
	18 follows:	18	how they wanna feel, uh, uh yeah. You are,
	19 "Let me call him and just find out	19	you aren't, you aren't with them, are ya?
02:58	20 what's going on, whether he understands really	03:00	20 (audience laughter) Okay, I didn't, I didn't
	21 what's being-if he wants to publish it it's	21	drive you guys out, did I?... One more
	22 great I don't care but I just, I know the guy	22	question.")
	23 and want to make sure he knows why the Hordes	23	BY MR. BYRNE:
	24 of Hell are descending upon him right now.	24	Q Okay. Does that -- rest of that audio confirm
02:58	25 That seems reasonable, right?")	03:00	25 that the transcript marked as Exhibit 2 is accurate?

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03:00	1 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. You mean word-for-word 2 verbatim? 3 MR. BYRNE: I'm asking him that, yes. 4 THE WITNESS: With the possible exception of a "and" 5 or a "the" every once in a while, but substantively, yes. 6 BY MR. BYRNE: 7 Q Okay. And there's a reference in here, 8 Mr. Waid, to five or six hours of death threats. 9 What -- what are you talking about here? 10 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. Oh, I'm sorry. Go 11 ahead. 12 THE WITNESS: I'm talking about the fact that once 13 Antarctic Press made their announcement, all of 14 Comicsgate descended on my Facebook feed like locusts. 15 Peppering -- posts not only about comics but about, you 16 know, my dog. I mean -- figuratively speaking. But I 17 mean, it had nothing to do with any of this, with fuck 18 you, Mark Waid, fuck you for doing this, I hope you rot 19 in hell, I hope you die, over and over and over again, 20 within the next five or six hours. The whole rest of the 21 evening was me having to try to delete and shoo off all 22 these flies who were descending upon me with absolute 23 hate, blaming me for what has happened. 24 BY MR. BYRNE: 25 Q Do you still have any documentation of death	03:04	1 BY MR. BYRNE: 2 Q Did you ever uncover any direct evidence of 3 white supremacy on the part -- statements on the part of 4 Mr. Meyer? 5 MR. PIERCE: Again, object to form. 6 How does this relate to jurisdiction? 'Cause 7 we're -- we're starting to yonder into, I think, more 8 substantive areas in a way that is really getting away 9 from the Court's order. This has nothing to do -- 10 MR. BYRNE: Well -- 11 MR. PIERCE: -- with jurisdiction. 12 MR. BYRNE: I think if there are defamatory 13 statements made in Texas, and there's a reference to 14 white supremacy tied to Mr. Meyer, I think I'm entitled 15 to explore that a little bit. 16 MR. PIERCE: Okay. I get you -- I'll give you a 17 little bit of room. 18 THE WITNESS: Ask it again, please. 19 BY MR. BYRNE: 20 Q Do you -- do you have any basis to substantiate 21 a contention that Mr. Meyer is a white supremacist? 22 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 23 THE WITNESS: I would say in the materials I 24 provided to the Court is various social media posts about 25 how, you know, it's not a -- you know, the one about
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03:01	1 threats you received? 2 A No. Anything I have I would have provided 3 already. 4 Q So did you delete anything that would have 5 evidenced death threats by anyone in response to what 6 happened with Antarctic Press? 7 A I mean, I wish I hadn't, but I did at the time. 8 Why give them more of a platform to keep screaming. 9 Q When did you delete those posts? 10 A Pretty much as they were happening. The idea 11 was to stiff arm and keep -- try to keep it from becoming 12 a giant -- as I put it, a landing. My -- my social media 13 became a landing strip for lunatics. 14 Q Did you take any of the death threats 15 seriously, or did you think of it as venting by folks on 16 the Internet? 17 A Well, at first you take it as venting, but 18 there's only so many times you can get that kind of stuff 19 without it reaching into your head a little bit. 20 Q Okay. And again, I'm going to just make the 21 record clear. The -- the recording that I played in the 22 course of the deposition is, I think, labeled full five 23 minute among several files on that thumb drive. 24 MR. BYRNE: And I also tendered you a duplicate, 25 Ryan.	03:05	1 the -- you know, it's not -- what a sideshow or a circus, 2 whatever, when you hire black people for comics, that 3 sort of thing that's in there, yeah, absolutely. At 4 least indicated a propensity towards what we -- what we 5 refer to as white supremacy these days. It's a pretty 6 broad spectrum. 7 BY MR. BYRNE: 8 Q Do you have any documentation or other evidence 9 of Mr. Meyer directly espousing white supremacist 10 doctrines, or are you inferring from the materials you 11 submitted to the Court that he must think that way? 12 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 13 What -- what statement is this tied to? I 14 mean, what specific -- you mentioned a defamatory 15 statement. 16 MR. BYRNE: He's talking about moving things back 17 toward white supremacy. 18 THE WITNESS: Are you asking, is there a specific 19 moment when he -- when I am aware of he said "I am a 20 white supremacist?" 21 BY MR. BYRNE: 22 Q Or espoused principles you associate with white 23 supremacist -- 24 A I associate? Absolutely. Again, I stepped on 25 you. I apologize.

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03:06	1 Q Okay. And are -- are -- are all of those 2 materials to substantiate that -- those included among 3 those that you submitted to the Court in connection with 4 the motion that's pending?	03:09	1 that and see if hat refreshes your memory about whether 2 you may have used that as a tool to locate the phone 3 number for Antarctic Press before you left your message 4 for Mr. Dunn?
03:06	5 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 6 THE WITNESS: To the best of my recollection, that's 7 correct. 8 BY MR. BYRNE: 9 Q And you certainly produced all of them to us in 10 the course of discovery, or given them to your lawyers to 11 produce to us in the course of discovery, correct?	03:10	5 A No, sir. I have no memory seeing any of this 6 before. 7 Q Okay. Do you see the name "Doug Dlin"? 8 A Uh... 9 Q Second-to-last page.
03:06	12 MR. PIERCE: Objection to form. 13 THE WITNESS: To the best of my recollection, yes, 14 sir. 15 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 4 was marked for 16 identification by the court reporter and was 17 attached hereto.) 18 BY MR. BYRNE: 19 Q I think you testified earlier you don't recall 20 ever characterizing Mr. Meyer as a doxer?	03:10	10 A I do. 11 Q Do you know whether you spoke to Mr. Dlin when 12 you called and left your message? 13 A I have no idea who I spoke to at that time. 14 Q So seeing his name there doesn't ring a bell? 15 A I know it was a woman. My recollection is that 16 it was a woman. Let me rephrase that. 17 Q But you don't remember her name? 18 A That's correct. 19 Q By the time you made the call to Antarctic 20 Press to make sure that they were informed, had you 21 already been receiving death threats, or did those come 22 in the wake of your conversation wi h Mr. Dunn and the 23 cancelation?
03:07	21 A I don't recall that. 22 MR. PIERCE: This has -- so this has nothing to do 23 with the Houston -- so to clarify, now you're getting 24 into statements that aren't tied to that meeting in 25 Houston or the Q & A session in Houston?	03:11	24 A Specific to this incident in the wake of, 25 although death threats are a part of -- sadly a part of
Page 70		Page 72	
03:08	1 Is -- is that right? 2 MR. BYRNE: Um... 3 MR. PIERCE: I mean, I think we're just get ing too 4 far afield here.	03:11	1 being a public figure, I've gotten many of them in the 2 past. 3 Q Do you remember talking about death hreats in 4 your conversation wi h Mr. Dunn?
03:08	5 MR. BYRNE: All right. We'll save that for the 6 merits. 7 MR. PIERCE: What exhibit number are we on? 8 THE REPORTER: 4. 9 MR. PIERCE: Thank you.	03:11	5 A I have no recollection of that, no, sir. 6 Q It could have come up, you just don't remember? 7 A I don't remember. 8 Q And I take it you don't deny that the phone 9 call you had with Mr. Dunn on the afternoon of May 11th, 10 2018 might have lasted as long as 27 minutes?
03:09	10 MR. BYRNE: No, we're on 5. 11 THE REPORTER: You want to keep that as 4? 12 MR. BYRNE: Yep. 13 THE REPORTER: Can I remark that, please? 14 THE WITNESS: Oh, sure. Of course.	03:12	11 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 12 THE WITNESS: It might have. 13 (Plain iff's Exhibit 6 was marked for 14 identification by he court reporter and was 15 attached hereto.) 16 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 17 BY MR. BYRNE: 18 Q And I'm handing you what's marked as Exhibit 6. 19 Is this a correct copy of a Facebook post hat you posted 20 on the afternoon of May 11th, 2018 while you were waiting 21 for Mr. Dunn to return the message you left?
03:09	15 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 5 was marked for 16 identification by the court reporter and was 17 attached hereto.) 18 MR. BYRNE: Sorry. I wasn't real clear. 19 BY MR. BYRNE: 20 Q Mr. Waid, I'm going to hand you what's been 21 marked as Exhibit 5. 22 A Uh-huh. 23 Q And represent to you that that is a printout 24 from the Internet of the Antarctic Press web page as it 25 appeared in May of 2017, and just ask you to glance over	03:13	22 A Yes, sir, that's accurate. 23 (Plain iff's Exhibit 7 was marked for 24 identification by he court reporter and was 25 attached hereto.)

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03:14	1 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 2 BY MR. BYRNE: 3 Q I'm handing you what's been marked as Exhibit 7 4 to your deposition, Mr. Waid, and ask you to confirm that 03:14 5 this is a series of text messages exchanged between you 6 and Mr. Dunn beginning on Friday, May 11th at 5:51 p.m. 7 and continuing several days thereafter. 8 (Whereupon, the witness reviews he 9 exhibit.) 03:15 10 THE WITNESS: That's accurate, yes, sir. 11 BY MR. BYRNE: 12 Q Okay. 'Cause the last series of texts looks -- 13 looks like it's dated Tuesday, May 15th. 14 Is that your interpretation as well? 03:15 15 A I'm not sure where you're seeing a date on the 16 last round of -- or I mean last -- 17 Q Well, if you go to page 2, you see Saturday 18 May 12th. 19 A Right. 03:15 20 MR. PIERCE: There's a Bates number at the bottom. 21 BY MR. BYRNE: 22 Q You go to page 4 which is Bates numbered 23 Defendants '9. There's a May 15th. 24 And that's he last date change I see in this 03:16 25 string.	03:21 1 Facebook page; is that right? 2 A I -- yes, I didn't close the account but I took 3 down the Facebook page, yes. 4 Q And did -- did anyone advise you to do that, or 03:21 5 is that something you decided to do independently of 6 hird-party suggestions or -- 7 A Totally on my own. 8 I stepped on you again. I'm sorry. 9 Q And is that because of negative feedback you 03:21 10 were getting from supporters of he Antarc ic Press 11 publication of "Jawbreakers" that were unhappy with your 12 role in that not happening? 13 MR. PIERCE: Object to form. 14 THE WITNESS: Because of the incessant, yes. 03:22 15 BY MR. BYRNE: 16 Q Have you spoken to Mr. Ben Dunn or Mr. Joe Dunn 17 since May 11th of 2018? 18 A You mean other than texts? 19 Q Right. 03:22 20 A I have not. 21 Q Okay. Are there any texts with either of the 22 Dunns besides those that we've just reviewed that are 23 marked in evidence? 24 A Not to the best of my recollection. I -- if 03:23 25 they're -- because of the way these are cropped on the	
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03:16 1 Am I missing something or did this all happen 2 on Tuesday -- all the entries after that day happen on 3 Tuesday, May 15th as you interpret this? 4 A Well, my recollection is there was a gap 03:16 5 between "I'm happy to leave" -- as you see, it says, "I'm 6 happy to leave you" -- and it's cut off. 7 And then the next one starts up with, "What 8 have I done to offend you?" 9 My recollection is there was a gap there. 03:16 10 Q Okay. 11 A It was a separate conversation. 12 Q A day or two later? 13 A A day or two later. 14 Q Okay. 03:17 15 THE WITNESS: All right. Can we take a bathroom 16 break real quick? 17 MR. BYRNE: Sure. 18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off the record at 3:17. 19 This is the end of Media No. 1. 03:21 20 (Recess taken.) 21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the record on 22 Media No. 1 at 3:21. 23 BY MR. BYRNE: 24 Q Shortly after your call with Mr. Dunn on 03:21 25 May 11th, within days at least, you took down your	03:23 1 screen caps, as I already indicated, there's one balloon 2 that was, you know, cut off -- you know, "I'm happy to 3 leave you" -- so I also submitted these exact same texts. 4 The cutoffs may be different in mine. 5 So if that makes any sense. So between the two 03:23 6 of them -- 7 Q Okay. 8 A -- that would be an accurate record of what's 9 there, yeah. 03:23 10 Q But no hing else substantive that you can 11 recall? 12 A That's correct. 13 Q Besides what we have here, correct? 14 A That's correct. 03:23 15 Q Have you been back to Texas since you were in 16 Houston for the May of 2018 event? 17 A No, sir. 18 MR. BYRNE: All right. We'll reserve the rest of 19 our questions for a later stage of the proceedings. 03:24 20 MR. PIERCE: Could we just take a quick break? 21 MR. BYRNE: Sure. 22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off the record at 3:24. 23 (Recess taken.) 24 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record at 3:27. 03:27 25 Media No. 1.		

Comicipalooza, May 25-27, 2018, Houston, Texas

Panel question by audience member and answer by Mark Waid

Audience Member: "I just want to get your quick opinion about small comic book creators like this guy we been hearing about on Twitter ... **Diversity & Comics**... big-time comic creators like yourself...Marvel...he seems obsessed with ... breaking into the scene, ... I'm trying to figure out, you know what's your opinion obsession...

Mark Waid: "That's...It's tough to answer, because I'm trying to...you don't want to give oxygen too much to toxic, **toxic people**. But what he's basically talking about there is, there are....just as there are in pop- I mean right in the world right now, not just in comic books but in the world you got... heavily you know male heavy ...um movements of guys who are trying to move things back towards **white supremacy**, or back towards a world in which **women knew their place**, uh... that kind of nonsense, um and they're the proud boys or they're you know they're this group or they're that group.

And comics has you know a group or two like that too, comics fans have a group like that or two too and it's a shame, um... trying to say without inflaming anything.

Recently um one of them, one of these groups kickstarted a comic and great, awesome they're gonna do their own graphic novel cause they're super conservative, hyper conservative guys and the myth was, the rap was that comics was not interested in creating conservative creators or

we're not, we're throwing conservative creators out. That's not the case at all, it's a lot of conservative creators in comics, we don't, we're throwing assholes out, that what we're doing for every, for every conservative asshole we don't work with in comics, there's ten liberal assholes who we don't work within comics, so if that's not, there's no, there's no political yardstick here.

Uh these guys created the, you know, they did their comic, great, awesome. Then they started doing things like um...making a list of the stor-, there was, there was a bunch of the stores that decided they weren't going to carry the comic, so these guys made a list of those stores ...and their phone numbers and the names, first and last, of all their employees. And with the idea that "Oh no, don't call them and harass them, we're not telling you to do that at all!" But here's their phone numbers and their first and last names of all their employees. Well c'mon.

So, there was a publisher here in Texas who was going to publish their comic, for, after it had been kickstarted they were gonna, like publish it for comic stores and ...there was a huge amount of hatred toward that publisher at this moment. There was a, most people in comics, most fans of comics were looking at this as "How? What are you doing? These guys are, these are indefensible human beings." Uh they are, they, they harass women, they harass minorities, they harass LGBTQ people, um, they're full of hate, what are you doing?"

And my feeling is, look let the baby have his bottle, let, I don't care who publishes the comic. I don't care whether you publish this comic or not. I don't care. But I knew the publisher and I don't think he was aware of why all of a sudden there was this *gigantic* groundswell of hate towards him. So I said before *we burn his place to the ground*, let me call him and just find out what's going on, whether he understands really what's being- if he wants to publish it that's great I don't care but I just, I know the guy and want to make sure he knows why the *Hordes of Hell* are descending upon him right now. That's seems reasonable, right?

Anyway, so, the long story short, I did call the publisher and said "Look, you do what you want and I'm not, im-, I'm not asking you to not publish it, I'm not even saying, I'm not saying anything, I'm just kinda curious what you're thinking." And the answer was, "Oh my God, we had no idea, like we really didn't vet this before we decided to publish it." And so they made an announcement that they weren't gonna publish it.

Uhhh that's their choice, I wasn't... I, you know I, I didn't, I wasn't intimidating them, I wasn't pushing them into doing one thing or another, I just wanted to, to look out for him and make sure he understood why people were angry at him. Um, and so that's turned into what, me getting death threats every, you know 5,6 hours for a while, ummm...

Cause I'm clearly hate, you know, I clearly hate conservatives. Because I didn't, I said, all right clearly I'm bullying comic- I'm apparently I'm bullying publishers, I'm calling publishers and bullying them into not publi-, if I could, if I could bully publishers I'd be rich. If I could bully publishers I'd be writing Superman *tomorrow*, I could- there'd be so many things I would be doing if I were really- if I had a power to make publishers do what I wanted them to do.

Um does that *kinda* answer your question? It's... kinda?

It's uh, ...people can you know feel how they wanna feel, uh uh yeah.

You are, you aren't, you aren't with them are ya? (audience laughter)

Okay. I didn't, I didn't drive you guys out, did I?... One more question."

**Mark Waid**

19 mins •

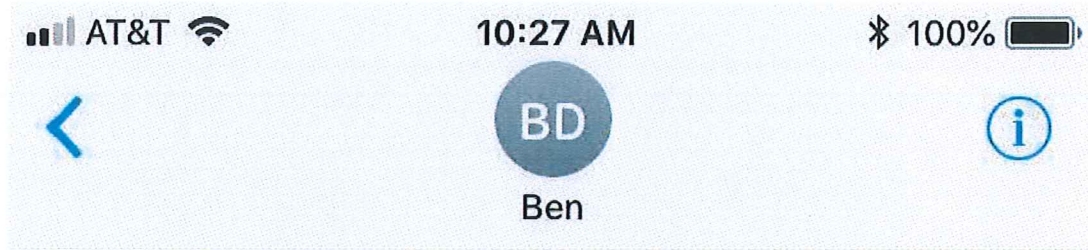
I have a call in to Antarctic Press. Until I hear back, I'm (hesitantly) willing to give them the benefit of the doubt that they don't really understand who or what they're getting into business with, which--though it would seem a stretch--is a possibility. If I do hear back, I'll report in. Curious as to how they feel about publishing creators whose marketing strategy is to allegedly (*koff*) **encourage their fans to threaten the employees of stores, and/or harass and one-star-review-bomb stores**, that don't order their product.

Are we as creators responsible for the actions of our fans? Ultimately, of course not. But it is morally bankrupt f... [Continue Reading](#)



stretch--is a possibility. If I do hear back, I'll report in. Curious as to how they feel about publishing creators whose marketing strategy is to allegedly (*koff*) encourage their fans to threaten the employees of stores, and/or harass and one-star-review-bomb stores, that don't order their product.

Are we as creators responsible for the actions of our fans? Ultimately, of course not. But it is morally bankrupt for creators with a voice to pretend they have zero influence over their fans, and it is incumbent upon them as human beings in a society to use that influence to intervene if and when people are getting harassed or threatened in their name. You can bet your ass that if I ever found out any of my fans were spreading misogyny, transphobia, racism, or bigotry as a way of "supporting" my work, I would take active steps to shut that shit down in a cocaine heartbeat, not just shrug my shoulders.



iMessage
Fri, May 11, 5:51 PM

Thank for talking to me this afternoon...I have decided to drop the project...statement on Facebook coming soon

You are a VERY good man. Text or DM me when the statement goes up and I'll recirculate it if you like.

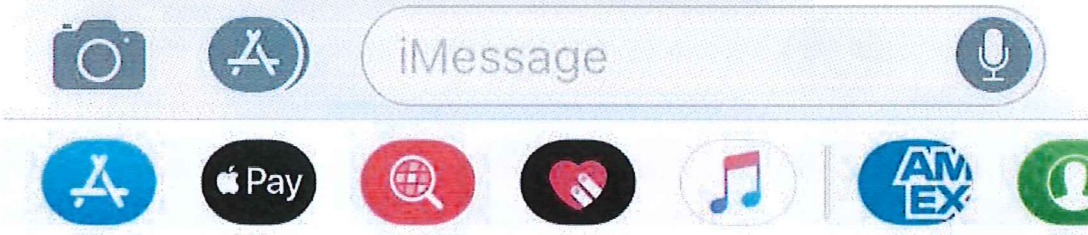
It's posted

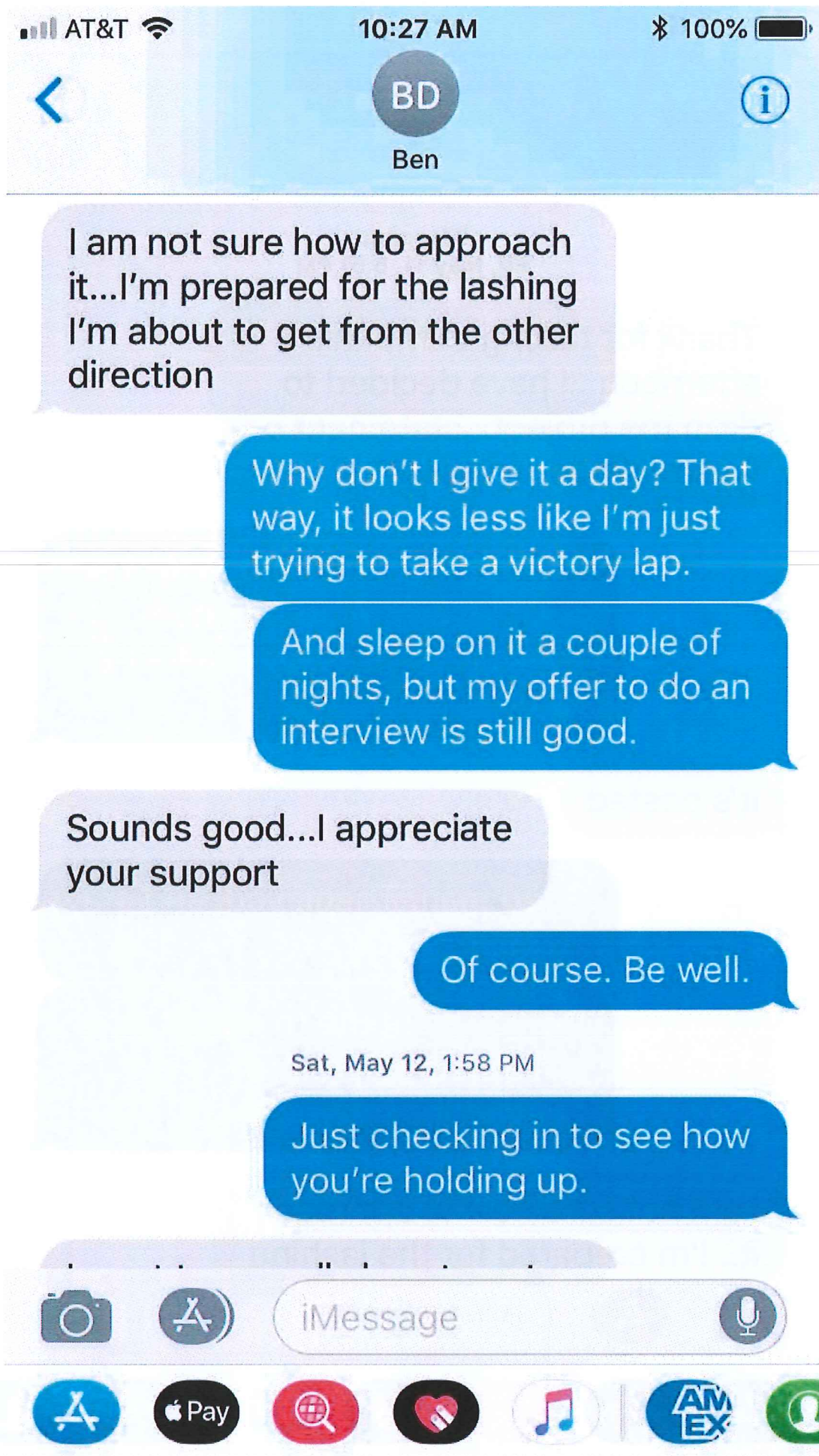
Good man. Thank you, and stay in touch

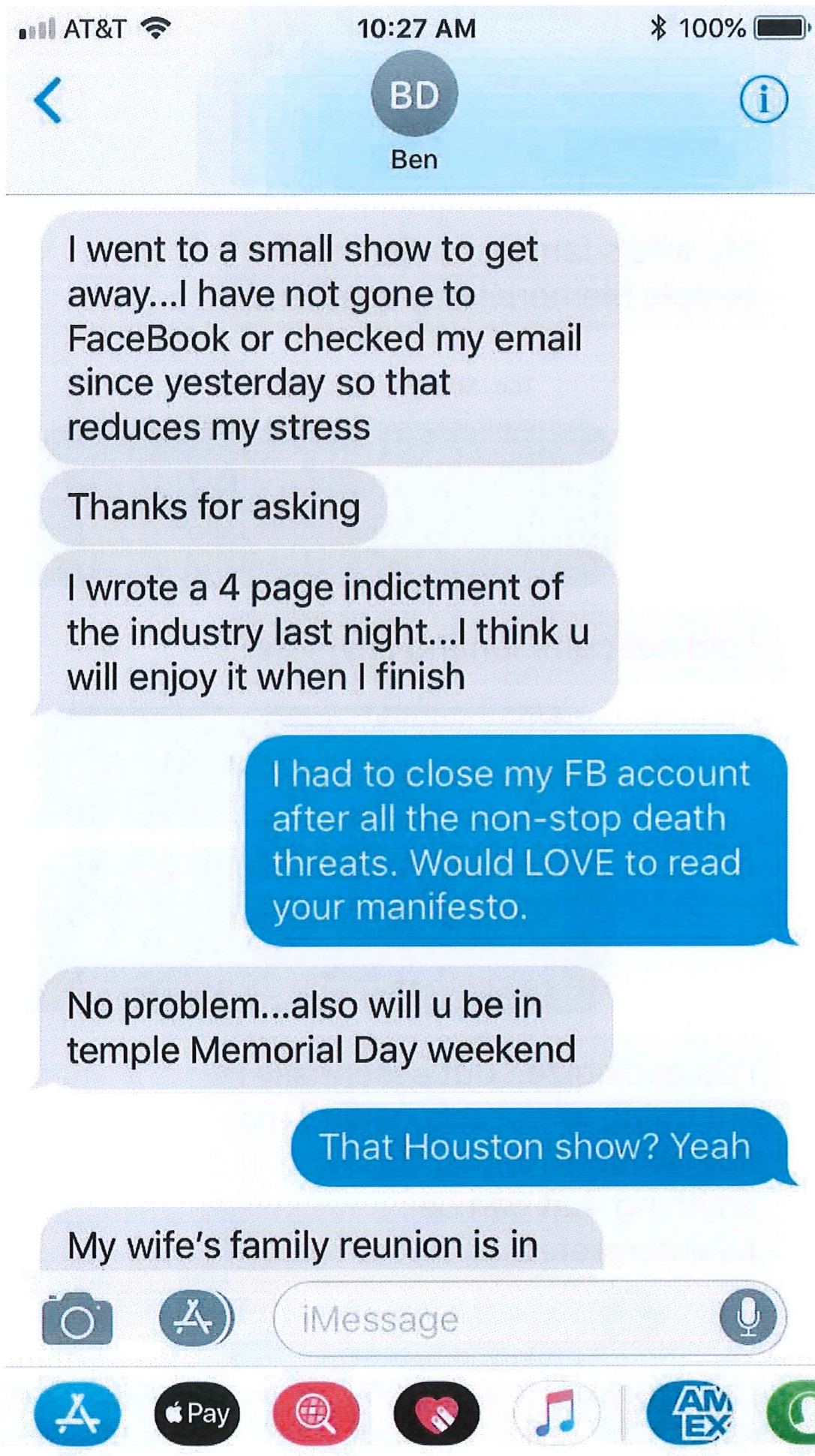
Do you want me to repost it, or will that create more headaches for you?

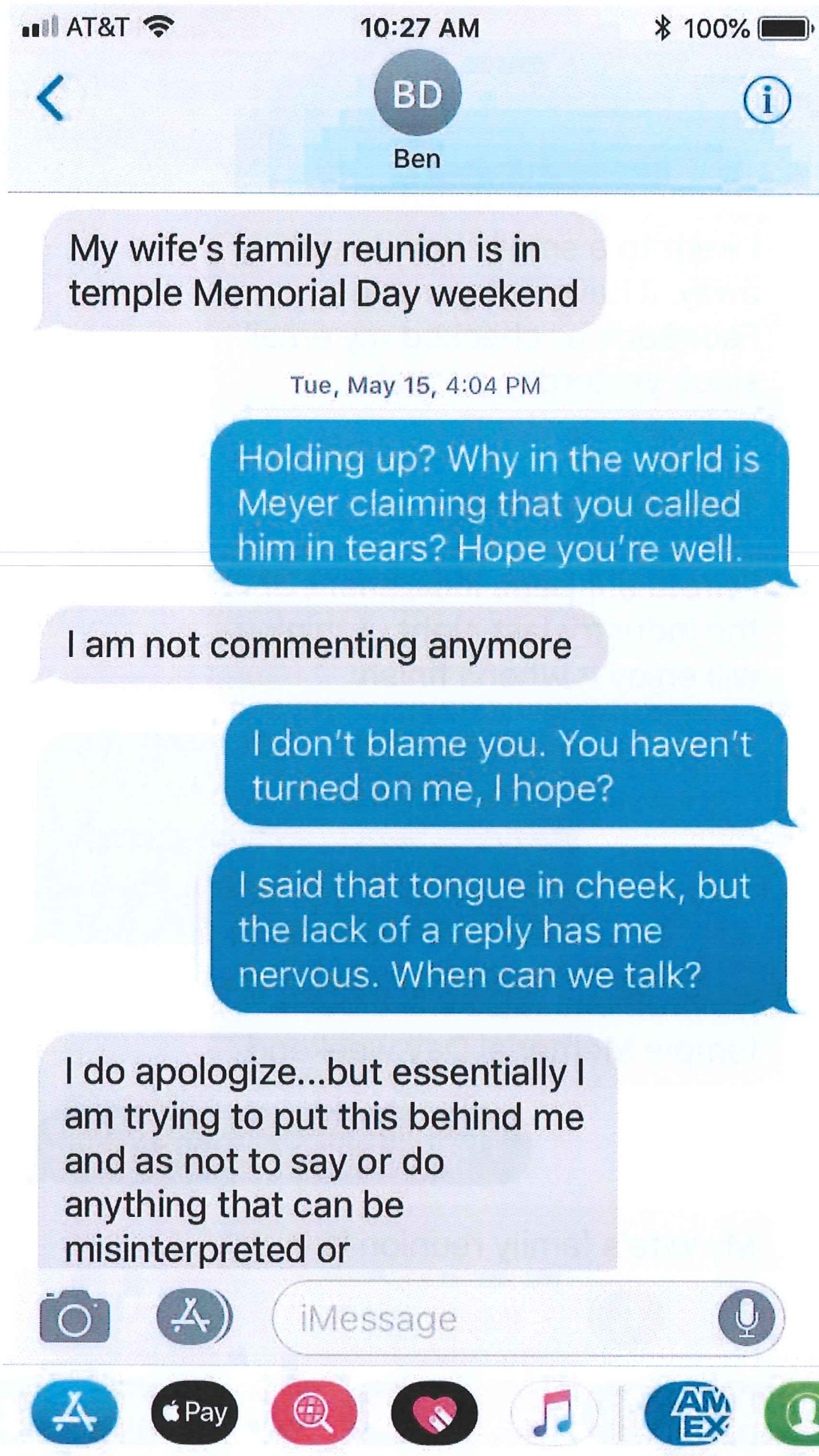
I am not sure how to approach it...I'm prepared for the lashing

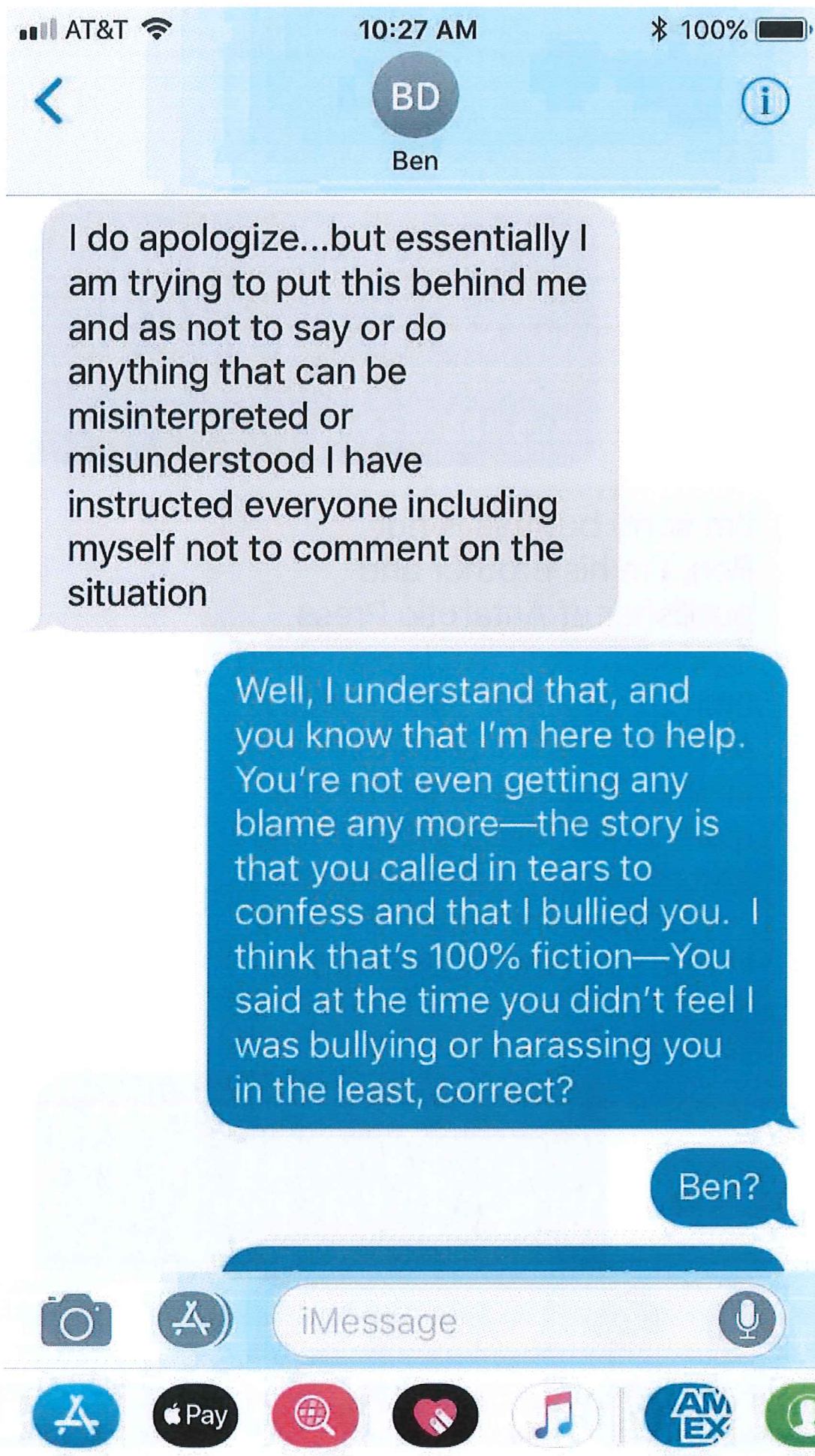
7

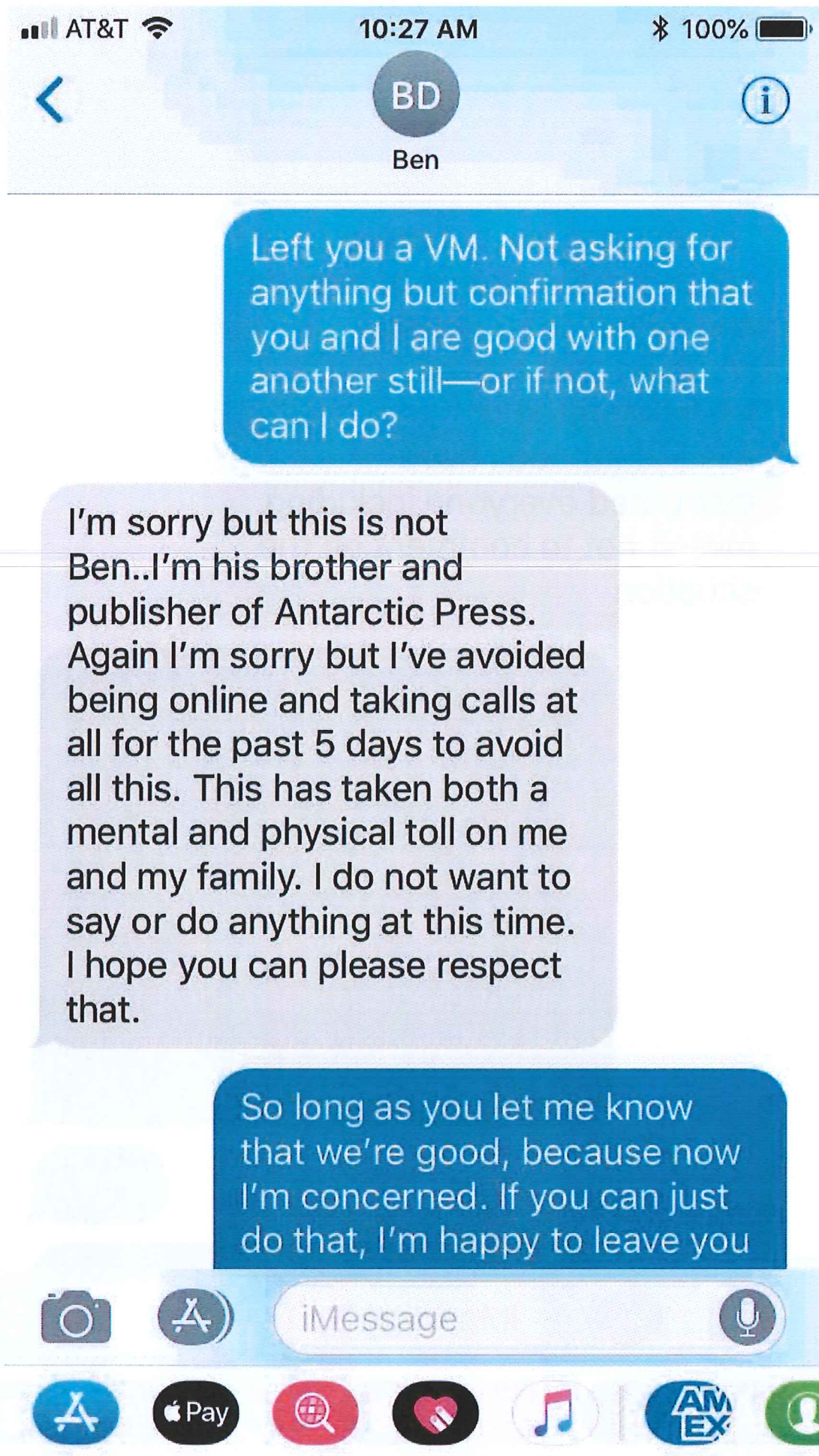


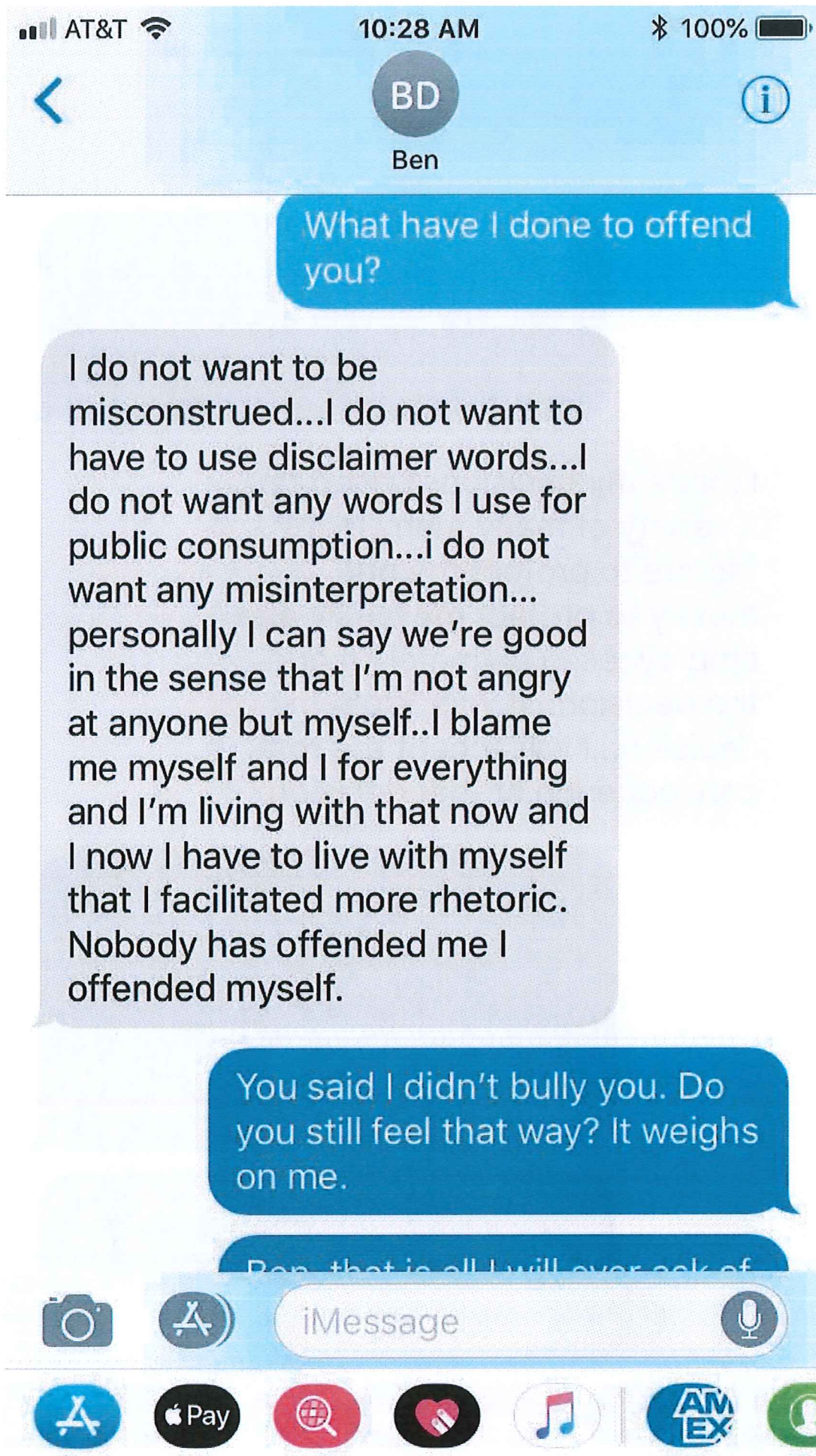


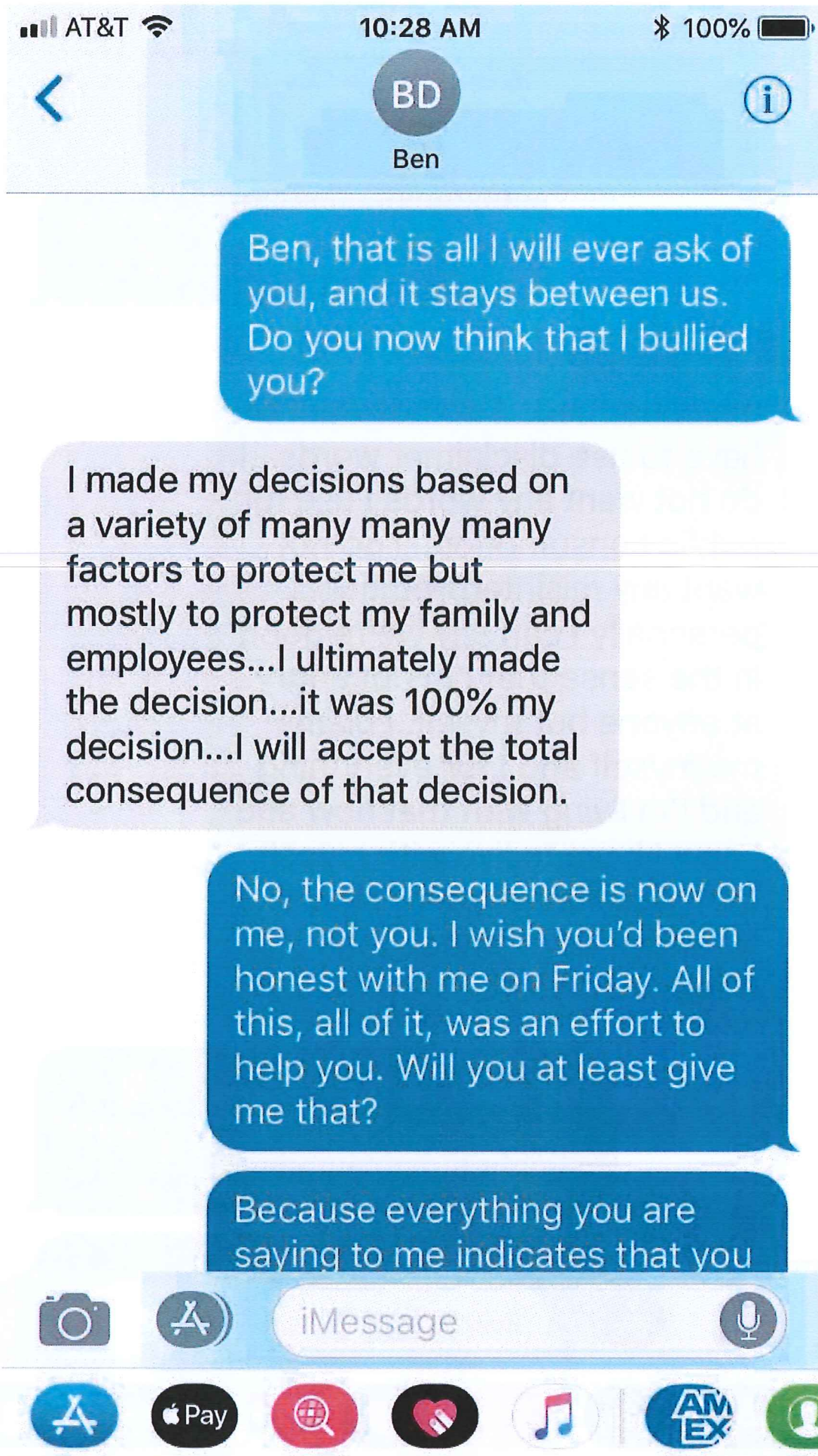


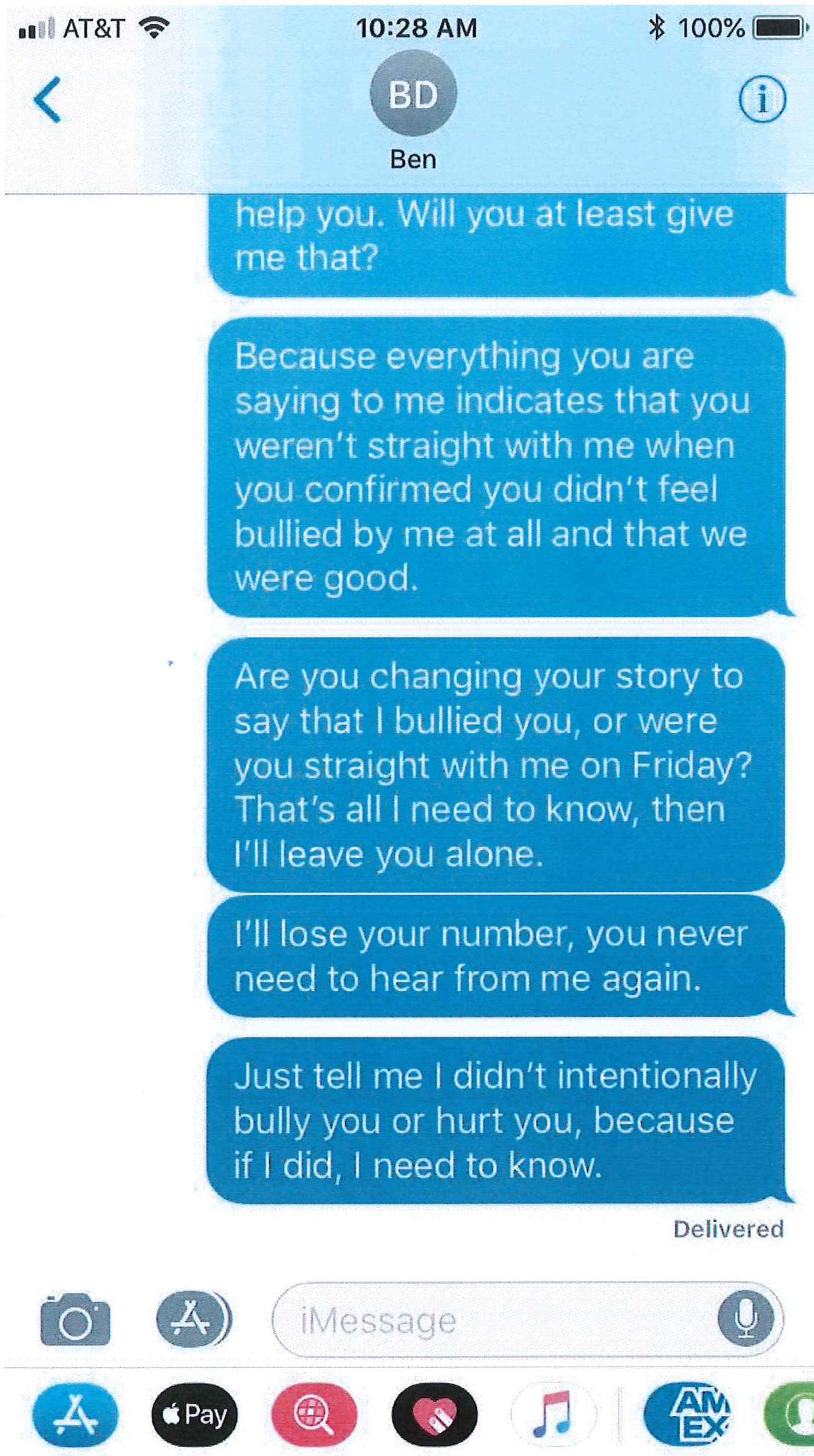












[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]